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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Gayle F. Truly, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

SEPTEMBER, 1987

RELEASE DATE:
October 22, 1987

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(In thousands)	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1987				REVISED AUGUST 1987				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1986			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,991.0	1,793.4	197.6	9.9	1,965.9	1,761.4	204.5	10.4	2,004.0	1,735.1	268.9	13.4
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	62.7	57.6	5.1	8.2	61.8	56.4	5.4	8.7	61.4	55.2	6.2	10.1
Baton Rouge 2/	269.3	246.6	22.7	8.4	265.1	241.3	23.8	9.0	264.2	235.9	28.3	10.7
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	73.0	64.2	8.8	12.1	72.3	63.0	9.3	12.8	77.5	62.5	15.0	19.4
Lafayette 4/	101.4	90.9	10.5	10.3	101.0	90.2	10.8	10.7	106.8	89.8	17.0	15.9
Lake Charles 5/	77.3	68.6	8.7	11.3	77.0	68.1	8.9	11.5	75.4	64.3	11.1	14.7
Monroe 6/	70.0	64.1	5.9	8.4	70.7	64.6	6.1	8.7	70.4	63.5	6.9	9.8
New Orleans 7/	609.3	555.2	54.1	8.9	605.9	551.0	54.9	9.1	608.1	539.0	69.1	11.4
Shreveport 8/	168.7	153.3	15.4	9.2	163.9	148.4	15.5	9.5	169.2	149.3	19.9	11.8

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during September totaled 1,497,400, an increase of 13,900 above the August revised figure but a decrease of 11,300 below the comparable period a year ago. Most of the increase was centered in the government segment of nonmanufacturing. Manufacturing employment was up as both durable and nondurable goods employment increased.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, at 75,800, was 900 higher than in August. Increased activity at logging camps and a growth in the production of millwork, plywood and structural members resulted in higher employment for the lumber and wood products industry. Transportation equipment payrolls were higher this month due to increased activity in the ship and boat building and repairing industry.

Nondurable goods employment, at 94,100, was 1,200 higher than last month, and it was 100 higher than August 1986. Seasonal increases in the canning of fruits and vegetables and in the production of fats and oils accounted for the higher level of food and kindred products employment. Apparel and other textile products was higher for September largely due to increased production of men's and boy's furnishings.

Louisiana's employment in the nonmanufacturing industries during September was 1,327,500, up by 11,800 from the August level. Mining employment was down slightly as a result of a decrease in the exploration of oil and gas. Construction payrolls remained steady for September. More business for the state's ports was largely responsible for higher employment in the transportation and public utilities segment of nonmanufacturing. Trade employment was higher in September as both the wholesale and retail segments experienced increases. Employment drops at banks were significant in the downturn of finance, insurance and real estate employment. Seasonal employee additions in educational services primarily accounted for the increase in total services employment for September. The largest increase in nonmanufacturing employment for the current month occurred in government as a result of the opening of state and local schools.

Average weekly earnings for Louisiana's 123,800 production workers in manufacturing increased from $448.20 in August to $464.98 in September, an increase of $15.78 and an increase of $14.33 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were $0.30 higher in September than last month and $0.52 more than September a year ago. Weekly hours averaged 41.8 for the current month, up by 0.3 hours from the August revised figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for September totaled 197,600, a decrease of 6,900 from the August revised level of 204,500. The unemployment rate for September was 9.9 percent, compared to 10.4 percent for August and 13.4 percent for September 1986. The national unemployment rate for September was 5.7 percent compared to 5.8 percent in August and 6.8 percent for September of last year. The state's civilian labor force moved from 1,965,900 in August to 1,991,000 in September, an increase of 25,100. Total employment for Louisiana went from 1,761,400 in August to 1,793,400 in September, a gain of 32,000.

The state's unemployment rate may fall in the upcoming months as seasonal employment increases. Trade employment is expected to add workers in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. Educational services, both private and public, should continue their growth next month as a result of the new school term.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes LaFourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change from August 1987	Net Change from September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,497.4	1,483.5	1,508.7	+13.9	-11.3
MINING	60.6	60.8	58.9	- 0.2	+ 1.7
Oil and Gas Extraction	57.8	58.0	56.0	- 0.2	+ 1.8
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.8	2.8	2.9	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	85.3	85.3	90.5	0	- 5.2
MANUFACTURING	169.9	167.8	166.3	+ 2.1	+ 3.6
Durable Goods	75.8	74.9	72.3	+ 0.9	+ 3.5
Lumber and Wood Products	12.1	11.8	12.5	+ 0.3	- 0.4
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.8	5.7	5.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.0	3.1	3.0	- 0.1	0
Fabricated Metal Products	12.8	12.7	12.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.1	8.9	8.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	7.4	7.4	7.8	0	- 0.4
Transportation Equipment	22.7	22.4	19.5	+ 0.3	+ 3.2
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	94.1	92.9	94.0	+ 1.2	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	21.4	20.6	22.3	+ 0.8	- 0.9
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.3	7.9	7.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.7
Paper & Allied Products	11.9	12.0	11.9	- 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.7	9.8	+ 0.1	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	25.3	25.4	25.6	- 0.1	- 0.3
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.8	12.7	12.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Petroleum Refining	11.9	11.8	11.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.6	4.6	4.3	0	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	107.5	106.7	105.9	+ 0.8	+ 1.6
Railroad Transportation	5.4	5.4	5.6	0	- 0.2
Transportation, ex. Railroads	60.8	59.6	58.6	+ 1.2	+ 2.2
Water Transportation	24.7	23.9	23.0	+ 0.8	+ 1.7
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	41.3	41.7	41.7	- 0.4	- 0.4
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.3	18.5	18.8	- 0.2	- 0.5
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	23.0	23.2	22.9	- 0.2	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	360.3	358.9	366.0	+ 1.4	- 5.7
Wholesale Trade	80.4	80.3	83.2	+ 0.1	- 2.8
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	43.7	43.7	46.8	0	- 3.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	36.7	36.6	36.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	279.9	278.6	282.8	+ 1.3	- 2.9
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	58.4	58.3	58.9	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Food Stores	57.2	56.5	55.8	+ 0.7	+ 1.4
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.1	30.0	30.9	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Eating & Drinking Places	82.8	82.7	84.7	+ 0.1	- 1.9
Other Retail Trade	51.4	51.1	52.5	+ 0.3	- 1.1

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change from August 1987	Net Change from September 1986
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.1	84.3	85.7	- 0.2	- 1.6
Banking	25.4	25.6	26.6	- 0.2	- 1.2
SERVICES	318.4	315.3	316.9	+ 3.1	+ 1.5
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	23.3	22.6	22.5	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
Personal Services	14.4	14.5	14.9	- 0.1	- 0.5
Business Services	55.5	54.9	54.4	+ 0.6	+ 1.1
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.6	9.6	10.0	0	- 0.4
Miscellaneous Repair Services	6.9	6.9	6.7	0	+ 0.2
Amusement & Recreation Services	10.2	10.4	10.0	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Health Services	98.4	98.2	96.8	+ 0.2	+ 1.6
Legal Services	15.2	15.5	14.4	- 0.3	+ 0.8
Educational Services	18.6	16.7	20.4	+ 1.9	- 1.8
Social Services	18.2	17.6	18.5	+ 0.6	- 0.3
Membership Organizations	25.6	25.8	26.1	- 0.2	- 0.5
Miscellaneous Services	16.3	16.4	16.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	311.3	304.4	318.5	+ 6.9	- 7.2
Federal	36.2	36.2	35.6	0	+ 0.6
State and Local	275.1	268.2	282.9	+ 6.9	- 7.8
State	99.4	91.9	101.4	+ 7.5	- 2.0
Local	175.7	176.3	181.5	- 0.6	- 5.8

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$463.98	$448.20	$449.65	41.8	41.5	42.5	$11.10	$10.80	$10.58
Durable Goods	404.81	398.57	409.34	40.4	40.3	42.2	10.02	9.89	9.70
Lumber & Wood Products	346.90	349.01	334.37	42.1	42.1	43.2	8.24	8.29	7.74
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	368.63	343.45	377.74	38.2	37.7	40.4	9.65	9.11	9.35
Fabricated Metal Products	439.80	409.08	428.26	45.2	41.7	46.0	9.73	9.81	9.31
Machinery, ex. Electrical	399.25	403.94	399.78	42.7	42.7	41.3	9.35	9.46	9.68
Electric & Electronic Equip.	460.16	453.47	539.03	37.2	37.2	43.4	12.37	12.19	12.42
Transportation Equipment	429.66	434.66	444.04	37.2	39.3	40.7	11.55	11.06	10.91
Nondurable Goods	516.00	491.73	485.35	43.0	42.5	42.8	12.00	11.57	11.34
Food & Kindred Products	319.39	306.46	314.36	41.0	39.8	41.2	7.79	7.70	7.63
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	190.38	200.79	190.11	33.4	38.1	36.7	5.70	5.27	5.18
Paper & Allied Products	641.45	545.67	578.98	47.2	42.3	44.4	13.59	12.90	13.04
Printing & Publishing	407.23	389.47	398.16	40.2	39.5	39.5	10.13	9.86	10.08
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	727.65	695.53	679.36	46.2	45.4	45.2	15.75	15.32	15.03
Petroleum & Coal Products	707.39	675.09	671.68	46.6	45.8	46.1	15.18	14.74	14.57
Petroleum Refining	717.57	687.58	687.42	46.9	45.9	46.7	15.30	14.98	14.72
MINING	566.43	554.00	537.54	47.4	48.3	46.3	11.95	11.47	11.61
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	520.10	532.13	532.76	40.1	40.1	40.7	12.97	13.27	13.09
BANKING	257.85	258.82	263.20	38.6	38.4	38.2	6.68	6.74	6.89

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 123,800 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 94,600 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 09 87				REVISED 08 87			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	24,225	20,950	3,275	13.5	23,900	20,475	3,425	14.3
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,975	8,825	1,150	11.5	9,750	8,575	1,175	12.0
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,600	5,225	1,375	20.7	6,625	5,150	1,475	22.3
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	17,275	14,775	2,500	14.4	16,850	14,150	2,700	16.0
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	15,350	13,800	1,550	10.1	14,575	13,000	1,575	10.8
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,750	6,125	625	9.4	6,700	6,025	675	10.2
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,625	4,075	550	11.8	4,525	4,000	525	11.8
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,900	4,550	350	7.2	4,750	4,425	325	7.0
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,900	4,200	700	14.1	4,700	3,975	725	15.4
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,975	7,275	700	8.7	7,850	7,125	725	9.1
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,625	9,400	1,225	11.5	10,350	9,050	1,300	12.5
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,400	12,025	1,375	10.2	13,000	11,600	1,400	10.8
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,525	4,000	525	11.8	4,425	3,775	650	14.8
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	9,175	8,300	875	9.5	8,950	8,050	900	10.0
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	14,250	12,525	1,725	12.0	14,100	12,200	1,900	13.4
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,975	7,925	1,050	11.8	8,500	7,400	1,100	13.0
COLFAX (GRANT)	7,050	6,350	700	9.9	6,750	6,025	725	10.8
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	27,525	23,175	4,350	15.8	28,000	23,425	4,575	16.3
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	12,225	10,400	1,825	14.9	12,050	10,175	1,875	15.5
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,525	7,025	500	6.6	7,350	6,800	550	7.5
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	14,025	12,225	1,800	12.8	13,600	11,775	1,825	13.4
JENA (LASALLE)	6,950	6,325	625	9.0	6,925	6,225	700	10.1
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	18,850	18,025	825	4.4	17,350	16,500	850	4.9
TALLULAH (MADISON)	6,450	5,500	950	14.7	6,200	5,225	975	15.8
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	13,075	11,625	1,450	11.2	12,700	11,200	1,500	11.8
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	17,850	16,400	1,450	8.1	17,450	15,925	1,525	8.7
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	9,725	8,700	1,025	10.6	9,725	8,650	1,075	11.1
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	8,150	6,900	1,250	15.3	7,875	6,550	1,325	16.8
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,700	4,250	450	9.3	4,525	4,100	425	9.6
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,375	8,350	1,025	11.0	9,050	7,950	1,100	12.1
MANY (SABINE)	10,175	9,350	825	8.2	10,000	9,150	850	8.5
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	3,125	2,775	350	11.2	3,050	2,675	375	12.6
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,800	7,450	1,350	15.4	8,750	7,300	1,450	16.5
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	34,850	29,875	4,975	14.3	34,450	28,850	5,600	16.2
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	25,600	21,150	4,450	17.4	25,700	21,025	4,675	18.1
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	41,300	36,500	4,800	11.6	40,650	35,500	5,150	12.6
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,825	3,525	300	7.8	3,575	3,275	300	8.6
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,875	7,975	900	10.1	8,475	7,625	850	10.2
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	21,450	18,325	3,125	14.5	21,175	17,875	3,300	15.5
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	20,500	18,900	1,600	7.8	20,475	18,925	1,550	7.6
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	19,150	17,125	2,025	10.6	18,750	16,650	2,100	11.2
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,150	16,925	2,225	11.6	19,025	16,725	2,300	12.1
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	5,275	4,425	850	16.1	4,950	4,125	825	16.6
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,325	3,975	350	8.0	4,275	3,900	375	8.6
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,900	5,400	500	8.5	5,800	5,300	500	8.8

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	46.0	45.5	45.6	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
MANUFACTURING	3.4	3.4	3.4	0	0
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.6	2.7	2.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.4	2.4	2.3	0	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10.9	10.9	10.7	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	8.7	8.7	8.6	0	+ 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
SERVICES	11.2	11.0	11.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Health Services	4.5	4.5	4.4	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	12.6	12.2	12.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Federal	2.7	2.7	2.5	0	+ 0.2
State and Local	9.9	9.5	10.0	+ 0.4	- 0.1
State	4.9	4.8	5.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Local	5.0	4.7	4.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria labor market area was estimated at 46,000 for the month of September. This estimate was 500 more than August and 400 more than September of last year.

Employment in manufacturing during September was estimated at 3,400. This estimate was unchanged since the previous month, and the same as September of last year.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 42,600 during September. This estimate was 500 more than August and 400 more than last September. Since last month the majority of this increase was motivated by the annual increase of personnel in education. Compared to last September nonmanufacturing employment has experienced an overall increase. Gains occurred in retail trade, services, federal and local government, with reductions coming in construction and state government.

Employment and unemployment is expected to remain relatively stable during the next thirty days.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	215.1	211.9	214.0	+ 3.2	+ 1.1
MANUFACTURING	19.0	19.1	18.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	4.2	4.3	4.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	0.7	0	+ 0.2
Other Durable Goods	1.9	2.0	1.9	- 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	14.8	14.8	14.8	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.3	10.4	10.3	- 0.1	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	20.3	20.1	19.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.6	10.6	10.2	0	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	53.3	53.1	52.2	+ 0.2	+ 1.1
Wholesale Trade	11.2	11.2	11.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.3	7.3	7.5	0	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.9	3.9	3.6	0	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	42.1	41.9	41.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.4	13.5	13.7	- 0.1	- 0.3
Banking	3.9	3.9	4.1	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	42.3	42.3	41.5	0	+ 0.8
GOVERNMENT	55.2	52.2	56.9	+ 3.0	- 1.7
Federal	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
State and Local	53.0	50.0	54.7	+ 3.0	- 1.7
State	31.8	28.4	33.1	+ 3.4	- 1.3
Local	21.2	21.6	21.6	- 0.4	- 0.4

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$563.75	$507.10	$534.60	43.1	41.6	42.7	$13.08	$12.19	$12.52
Petro-Chemicals	738.72	681.93	747.39	45.6	46.9	49.3	16.20	14.54	15.16

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA, at 215,100 during September, was up 3,200 from the revised August total and up 1,100 over the comparable period a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing, at 19,000 was down 100 during the current period. Other durable goods were down due to less business in iron and steel foundries and in miscellaneous machinery, except electrical. Nondurable goods had no change, however, sugar and confectionery products had a seasonal increase and industrial organic chemicals were down due to less business.

Total nonmanufacturing was up 3,300 during September. Construction was up due to more business in heavy construction, except highway and street construction and in electrical work. Retail trade was up due to more business in grocery stores and in eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance and real estate was down due to less business in real estate operators (except developers) and lessors. State government was up due to seasonal increases in colleges, universities, professional schools, and junior colleges; however, the current total employment is 1,700 less than the year ago figure. Local government was down during the current period.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,400 production workers in all manufacturing was $563.75, up $56.65 from the revised August average. Average weekly hours, at 43.1, were up 1.5 hours and average hourly earnings, at $13.08 were up $0.89 per hour. More overtime at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents at 246,600 during September was up 5,300 from the August revised estimate due primarily to seasonal increases in public education. Unemployment, at 22,700, was down 1,100 during the current period. The unemployment rate for September was 8.4 percent, compared to 9.0 percent for August and 10.7 percent for September a year ago. The current statewide rate was 9.9 percent and the national rate is 5.7 percent. The Baton Rouge civilian labor force was 269,300 during the current period.

Seasonal increases in retail trade and education are expected to continue raising employment levels during the coming month.

The Baton Rouge Job Service served 3,480 individual with new or renewal applications, and placed 1,440 applicants in jobs during September.

The consumer price index for August, 1987 for all urban consumers was 342.7 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 337.4 using base period 1967=100.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.0	52.5	53.4	+ 0.5	- 0.4
MANUFACTURING	4.4	4.3	5.2	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Durable Goods	2.9	2.8	3.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	1.5	1.5	2.1	0	- 0.6
MINING	6.3	6.2	5.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
CONSTRUCTION	1.4	1.4	1.7	0	- 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.1	5.9	5.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Water Transportation	3.9	3.7	3.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.7	13.8	13.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.6	2.9	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	11.0	11.2	10.5	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.5	3.0	- 0.1	+ 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.4	2.4	2.5	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	8.5	8.6	8.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3
GOVERNMENT	10.2	9.9	10.9	+ 0.3	- 0.7
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
State and Local	9.7	9.4	10.4	+ 0.3	- 0.7
State	2.8	2.5	3.1	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Local	6.9	6.9	7.3	0	- 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA in September moved up to 53,000, a level 500 above August. Seasonal changes accounted for most of the gain.

Manufacturing employment totaled 4,400 in September, increasing 100 over the previous month. Durable goods went up 100 due to an increase in ship and boat building and repairing. The nondurable goods segment was unchanged from the previous month. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment decreased 900.

State government pulled up from the summer low in employment by state institutions of higher learning. Mining showed a small increase. Water transportation added workers. Less favorable, retail trade exhibited a decrease spread through several segments. Services were lowered by a general downturn. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed no change. Construction held steady.

Estimated unemployment in September moved down to 8,800, a level 500 below that of August. An increase in employment was mostly responsible. Unemployment presently comprises 12.1 percent of the labor force compared to 12.8 percent in August and 19.4 percent in September of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 1,458.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to display a small seasonal overall gain. Trade will probably show some increase as the holiday season draws nearer. Unemployment is predicted to show a small decrease.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	82.6	82.8	84.8	- 0.2	- 2.2
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.2	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.7	1.5	0	+ 0.2
MINING	11.1	11.1	11.3	0	- 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	3.4	3.4	3.7	0	- 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.4	6.4	6.6	0	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	21.9	21.8	23.0	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Wholesale Trade	5.0	4.9	5.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.0	2.9	3.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Retail Trade	16.9	16.9	17.9	0	- 1.0
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.7	3.0	0	- 0.3
Food Stores	2.8	2.8	3.1	0	- 0.3
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	9.8	9.8	- 10.1	0	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.9	3.9	4.1	0	- 0.2
Banking	1.3	1.3	1.5	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	18.3	18.0	18.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	11.8	12.4	12.3	- 0.6	- 0.5
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
State and Local	11.0	11.6	11.4	- 0.6	- 0.4
State	4.2	4.2	4.4	0	- 0.2
Local	6.8	7.4	7.0	- 0.6	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette LMA was estimated at 82,600 for September 1987. This estimate is 200 less than last month's estimate and is 2,200 less than September of last year.

Wholesale and retail trade showed an increase of 100 from the previous month, but is still down by 1,100 from a year ago.

Services rose by 300 for September, due primarily to a slight increase in the health services and private educational services industries. Compared to one year ago, this sector is showing an increase of 200 employees.

Government, the only sector showing a decrease, was down 600 for the month of September due to the end of summer youth employment. This segment of nonmanufacturing is showing a decrease of 500 from September 1986.

All other sectors showed no change from last month's estimate.

Employment in the trade sector should increase, while the unemployment rate should decrease due to seasonal factors.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.6	58.6	57.0	0	+ 1.6
MANUFACTURING	11.1	11.0	8.6	+ 0.1	+ 2.5
Durable Goods	3.0	2.9	0.6	+ 0.1	+ 2.4
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.8	2.7	0.4	+ 0.1	+ 2.4
Nondurable Goods	8.1	8.1	8.0	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.3	7.3	7.2	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	4.7	4.8	5.4	- 0.1	- 0.7
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	3.7	3.7	3.9	0	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.9	13.8	13.9	+ 0.1	0
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.8	2.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	11.0	11.0	11.3	0	- 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.1	3.1	3.1	0	0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
SERVICES	10.6	10.7	10.6	- 0.1	0
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.6	0.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	10.5	10.5	10.6	0	- 0.1
Federal	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
State and Local	9.8	9.8	9.9	0	- 0.1
State	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
Local	6.1	6.1	6.3	0	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles LMA was estimated at 58,600, showing no change from last month's revised estimate. Overall, the employment estimates are 1,600 above September of last year.

The manufacturing sector continues to grow for the sixth consecutive month with an increase of 100 for the month of September.

Wholesale and retail trade rose by 100 from last month's estimate and is unchanged from the September 1986 estimates.

Construction and services sectors showed a decrease of 100 from the previous month's estimates. All other sectors showed no change from last month's estimates.

Employment is expected to increase over the next thirty days due to seasonal hiring. The unemployment rate should decrease.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	54.2	54.6	55.6	- 0.4	- 1.4
MANUFACTURING	7.2	7.1	7.5	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Durable Goods	2.3	2.2	2.3	+ 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.1	2.0	2.1	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.9	5.2	0	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.5	3.5	3.7	0	- 0.2
MINING	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	2.6	2.8	3.1	- 0.2	- 0.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.6	2.7	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.8	14.8	15.0	0	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	11.0	11.0	11.1	0	- 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.9	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.2	3.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.6	4.5	4.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
SERVICES	11.4	11.4	11.1	0	+ 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Health Services	4.7	4.7	4.5	0	± 0.2
GOVERNMENT	10.5	10.8	11.1	- 0.3	- 0.6
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.9	10.2	10.5	- 0.3	- 0.6
State	4.2	4.2	4.8	0	- 0.6
Local	5.7	6.0	5.7	- 0.3	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 54,200, was 400 below the 54,600 revised estimate for August. The loss can be attributed primarily to youth leaving summer employment to begin the fall semester at educational facilities.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,200, was up minimally. The 100 gain was in durable goods.

Construction was down by 200 to an estimated 2,600 employees. Finance, insurance and real estate rose by 100. Government experienced a loss of 300, reflecting the lay-off of students in summer work programs to return to school. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next thirty days employment should rise slightly to reflect the beginning of the fall semester at local educational facilities. Unemployment should remain high but relatively stable.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	511.9	511.4	516.2	+ 0.5	- 4.3
MANUFACTURING	42.8	42.1	43.4	+ 0.7	- 0.6
Durable Goods	21.1	20.7	20.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.4	1.3	1.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Machinery	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Transportation Equipment	12.3	12.2	12.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.4	8.2	8.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.7	1.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	21.7	21.4	22.5	+ 0.3	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	6.6	6.4	6.8	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.7	1.6	1.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	3.8	3.8	4.0	0	- 0.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.6	4.6	4.8	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
MINING	17.0	17.0	16.2	0	+ 0.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	16.0	16.0	15.3	0	+ 0.7
CONSTRUCTION	24.1	24.2	25.1	- 0.1	- 1.0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	42.2	42.3	42.8	- 0.1	- 0.6
Railroad Transportation	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	11.2	11.2	12.1	0	- 0.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	134.3	133.0	136.0	+ 1.3	- 1.7
Wholesale Trade	31.4	31.5	32.8	- 0.1	- 1.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	17.8	18.1	19.4	- 0.3	- 1.6
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.6	13.4	13.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	102.9	101.5	103.2	+ 1.4	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.4	33.4	33.9	0	- 0.5
Banking	7.1	7.1	7.3	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	134.3	131.2	133.5	+ 3.1	+ 0.8
GOVERNMENT	83.8	88.2	85.3	- 4.4	- 1.5
Federal	15.9	15.7	15.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
State and Local	67.9	72.5	70.1	- 4.6	- 2.2
State	18.8	17.7	20.2	+ 1.1	- 1.4
Local	49.1	54.8	49.9	- 5.7	- 0.8

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**
All MANUFACTURING	$431.21	$437.96	$439.15	40.3	41.2	40.7	$10.70	$10.63	$10.79
Durable Goods	375.39	387.70	404.01	38.7	39.4	40.2	9.70	9.84	10.05
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	316.53	280.04	357.08	32.2	28.9	32.7	9.83	9.69	10.92
Fabricated Metal Products	377.61	437.44	511.83	41.0	44.5	47.0	9.21	9.83	10.89
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	358.33	372.09	370.89	37.6	38.8	39.0	9.53	9.59	9.51
Nondurable Goods	485.30	484.50	471.42	41.8	42.8	41.1	11.61	11.32	11.47
Food & Kindred Products	340.73	344.80	329.28	38.5	40.0	38.2	8.85	8.62	8.62
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	144.60	163.85	134.31	30.0	33.1	24.2	4.82	4.95	5.55
Paper & Allied Products	436.13	388.08	414.90	43.7	44.1	46.1	9.98	8.80	9.00
Printing & Publishing	388.88	372.26	391.02	42.5	41.5	42.0	9.15	8.97	9.31
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	738.04	730.94	709.19	44.3	46.0	45.2	16.66	15.89	15.69

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,100 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans LMA moved up to 511,900, a level above August. Seasonal increases in some industries offset seasonal decreases in others. Over the year, nonagricultural employment lost 4,300 workers, with every industry division except mining and services showing a reduction in employment.

Manufacturing employment totaled 42,800 in September, up 700 from the previous month. Durable goods showed an increase of 400 over the previous month. An increase of 100 was due to scattered hires in many firms in the stone, clay and glass products segment. Ship and boat building and repairing increased 200 due to an increase in government contracts. A general increase in employment spread throughout several segments of other durable goods. Nondurable goods increased 300 over the previous month. Food and kindred products increased 200 due to an increase in seafood processing. Apparel and other textile products also rose 100, favored by a seasonal increase in demand. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 600.

Services were boosted by normal seasonal gains, mostly in private educational services. Business services added workers. The hotel-motel industry gained, benefitting from autumn sports and cultural attractions. In retail trade, a seasonal upturn was augmented by the opening of new stores. Less favorably, government was lowered by layoffs of temporary summer workers in the local sector. Partly offsetting losses, state government pulled back up to normal levels in state institutions of higher learning. Transportation showed a small decrease. Construction tapered off in heavy construction. Mining held steady. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed no significant change.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $431.21 per week in September, down $6.75 from last months average. Average weekly hours went down 54 minutes from the previous month, and average hourly earnings increased seven cents over the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earning are down $7.94 in manufacturing.

Estimated unemployment in September decreased to 54,100, a level 800 below August. The increase in employment was mostly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 8.9 percent of the labor force compared to 9.1 percent in August and 11.4 percent in September of last year. The September rate was lower than the state rate of 9.9 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 11,933.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to show some overall increases. Both public and private educational services will probably add more workers as the autumn school term moves further along. Retail trade is expected to increase as the holiday season draws nearer. Unemployment is expected to show some decrease.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1987*	August 1987**	September 1986**	Net Change From August 1987	Net Change From September 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	132.8	129.3	135.3	+ 3.5	- 2.5
MANUFACTURING	18.6	18.2	19.1	+ 0.4	- 0.5
Durable Goods	13.3	13.0	13.6	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	7.9	7.6	8.1	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.7	1.6	1.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	6.2	6.0	6.3	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	4.9	4.9	4.9	0	0
Nondurable Good	5.3	5.2	5.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.9	0	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.4	1.5	+ 0.1	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
MINING	3.4	3.3	3.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	8.1	8.4	7.9	- 0.3	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.1	7.9	8.6	+ 0.2	- 0.5
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	29.9	30.2	31.4	- 0.3	- 1.5
Wholesale Trade	7.1	7.2	7.8	- 0.1	- 0.7
Retail Trade	22.8	23.0	23.6	- 0.2	- 0.8
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.9	7.6	7.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
SERVICES	31.8	31.6	31.9	+ 0.2	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	25.0	22.1	25.1	+ 2.9	- 0.1
Federal	4.5	4.7	4.5	- 0.2	0
State and Local	20.5	17.4	20.6	+ 3.1	- 0.1
State	6.3	6.1	6.3	+ 0.2	0
Local	14.2	11.3	14.3	+ 2.9	- 0.1

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**	Sept. '87*	August '87**	Sept. '86**
All MANUFACTURING	$459.65	$445.96	$472.64	37.8	39.5	42.2	$12.16	$11.29	$11.20
Lumber and Wood Products	270.00	262.41	244.97	37.5	36.7	38.7	7.20	7.15	6.33
Metals and Machinery	470.83	463.67	453.65	39.8	39.8	42.2	11.83	11.65	10.75
Food and Kindred Products	335.55	255.25	310.72	42.8	35.5	41.1	7.84	7.19	7.56
Printing and Publishing	330.71	310.75	288.86	34.2	33.2	31.5	9.67	9.36	9.17
Petroleum and Coal Products	594.70	564.98	538.65	47.5	46.5	43.9	12.52	12.15	12.27

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 132,800, increased from 129,300 in August, but remained 2,500 less than September, 1986.

The manufacturing employment total of 18,600 remained below the year ago estimate of 19,100, but was up from the August estimate of 18,200. The employment gains during the past month occurred in the production of durable goods. Primarily metals and machinery jobs grew from 7,600 in August to 7,900 in September. There was a slight gain in nondurable goods employment as printing and publishing increased from 1,400 to 1,500.

In nonmanufacturing, the most significant employment gain occurred in local government with the beginning of the 1987-88 school year. There were additional small employment increases in mining, transportation and public utilities, finance, insurance, and real estate and services. While jobs in the nonmanufacturing sectors increased from 111,100 to 114,200 during the past month, they are still below the September 1986 estimate of 116,200.

The 43,900 production workers, in the Shreveport labor market area, had average weekly earnings of $459.65, up $13.69 from last month, and $12.99 less than in September, 1986. These production workers averaged 37.8 hours per week, down 1.7 hours from last month and 4.4 hours less than the average weekly hours of one year ago. The average hourly earnings of $12.16 are $0.87 cents more then the previous month and $0.96 cents more than one year ago.

The civilian labor force for this area, estimated at 168,700, includes 153,300 employed and 15,400 unemployed. The unemployment rate was 9.2 percent for September, down from 9.5 percent in August and 11.8 percent in September, 1986.

During the next two months, only slight changes are expected in total employment and unemployment. The annual fair activities will be a temporary stimulas in October while a job loss will occur when the race track closes in November. Total unemployment is expected to remain near the present level.

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